

# THE NEW PLAYS

"Papa"

A Silly Thing

By CHARLES DARNTON

AN OLD FLUFF who is a parasite by nature and cares only for his own comfort is neither a sympathetic nor an amusing type, yet this is the character upon which Zoe Atkins has staked her apparent cleverness in "Papa," the comedy at the Little Theatre.

Miss Atkins calls her play "an amoral comedy," whatever that means, but it should be dubbed "an immorality," for it drags in an illegitimate child. The first act establishes "Papa" as a silly thing, with the father of two daughters willing to have either of them marry any man who will provide him with money. There is only one name for such a man, young or old, and it is not mentioned, as a rule, in polite society. The one amazing situation in the play is developed when the father of the child, an Italian tenor named Zimzapani, if you please, enters the household and is unable to recognize the mother. He doesn't know one sister from the other. We may take it from this confusing dilemma that operatic tenors are delightfully irresponsible and that they cherish only photographs of themselves. But it is in very bad taste, in my opinion, to put the child on exhibition. At any rate, she must be left to the imagination. The fine and simple sister makes it appear that she is the mother in order to test the affection of a suitor, who straightway proves himself to be "magnanimous" by asking her to become his wife. Yet the whole thing comes to nothing. There is no good reason for the daughters doing on their father, even when he poses as the parent of the child for the sake of giving a sophisticated woman the hope to marry the impression that he has been a gay dog in his earlier day. The whole affair is artificial and rather sickening.

John L. Shine plays "Papa" for all he is worth—but that isn't much. Barnett Parker gives a capital performance as the "magnanimous" Frederick, and Jobyna Howland is gorgeous and clever as the extremely fashionable lady who finally takes "Papa" under her arm and walks with him. Another excellent bit of acting is done by Adeline Miller as the tenor. Little Marian Battista is an adorable Dolores, but she should be heard about and not seen. Ann Andrews and Violetta Wilson are compelled to make a ridiculous fuss over poor old "Papa"—heaven help them and the play!

## About Plays and Players

By BIDE DUDLEY

LIVER MOROSCO announces that he has completed plans to build a theatre in New York near his present one. Work on it will be started within thirty days, and it will be ready for occupancy late in the fall. He states further that he will build Morosco-theatre in Boston and Chicago this summer. These new houses, with his four in Los Angeles and San Francisco, will give him increased booking and production facilities, which he has long desired. Mr. Morosco has about a dozen new plays and musical comedies which will be staged this summer and fall.

### OSCAR 2D WRITES ONE.

Arthur Hammerstein contemplates producing a play, called "The Lents," written by his nephew, Oscar Hammerstein 2d, son of the late William Hammerstein. The young author is now stage manager of "Tumble In" at the Columbia University. He wrote several plays which were acted by the students.

### IT'S "A LONELY ROMEO."

"A Lonely Romeo," has been selected as the title for Lew Fields' musical review, to be produced by the Messers. Shubert. Harry B. Smith is the author of the book and lyrics and Robert Hood Flowers is the composer.

### MAY HIT THE HIGH MARK.

Since the Hippodrome show, "Everything," passed its 40th performance Saturday, there is much speculation in the Broadway district as to the possibility of its reaching the 500 mark. It would have to continue until June 19 to do this. If it does, "Everything" will hold the world's record for musical productions.

### THIS CARD A LAGGARD.

James Fennimore Lee, who is almost as well known on Broadway as Broadway is itself, received a postal card from China, signed by Walter Kingsley, yesterday. The fact that Mr. Kingsley hasn't been in China for about sixteen years makes the incident interesting. He went there ahead of M. B. Leavitt's vaudeville company, which toured the Far East, years ago. The postal card was received in New York on October 11, 1903. Where it has been since, Mr. Lee has no idea. On it Mr. Kingsley had written of seeing some mighty pretty Chinese girls.

### MISS PRINGLE'S DEBUT.

Margaret Pringle, a comely young woman with a fine voice, will make her Broadway debut as prima donna with "Come Along," at the Nora Bayne Theatre tonight. One hundred and fifty Salvation Army girls, who saw duty overseas, will witness the performance as guests of the management.

### A SHREWD INVESTOR.

The negro carriage man at the Astor Theatre centered Sam Shipman, co-author of "East Is West," the attraction at that house, Saturday night and said: "Disah Shipman, look lak yo' main 'n' money heah."

"We are," replied the playwright. "Well, I know some show business ain't no good, but this heah one looks pretty substantial. How 'bout yo' gittin' in on it?"

"How much do you want to invest?" The negro thought a moment and he

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## LITTLE MARY MIXUP



## THE BIG LITTLE FAMILY



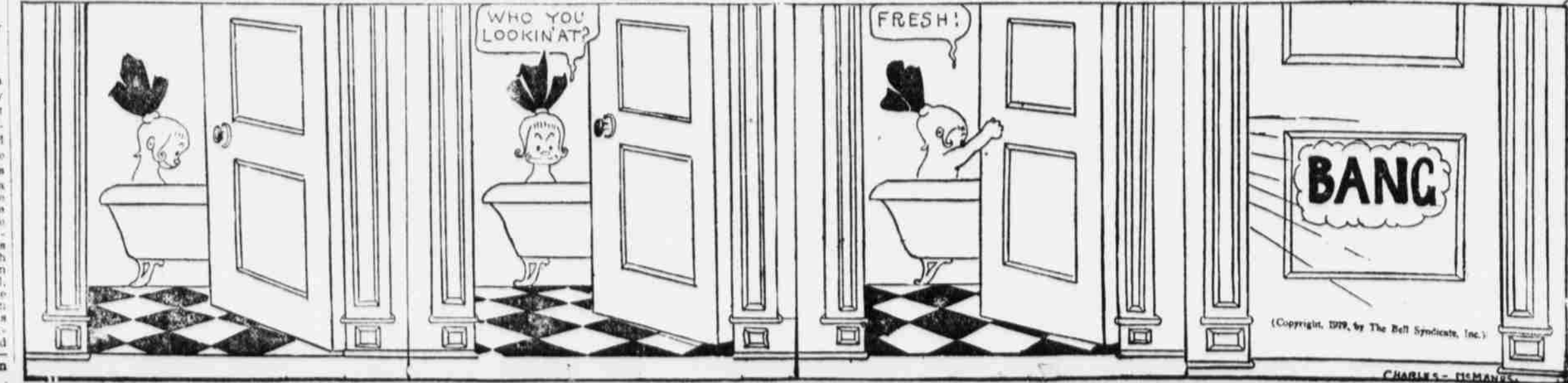
## JOE'S CAR



## THE OLD FAMILY SKELETON



## INTRODUCING DOROTHY



## SAWTAY Corn Fritters

—so delicious with fried chicken—so good with syrup for luncheon.

Mix and sift 1 cup flour, 1 teaspoon baking powder, 1/2 teaspoon salt, and a dash of pepper.

Add 2 cups corn, 2 tablespoons melted SAWTAY, yolk of two eggs (well beaten) then fold in stiff beaten whites.

Have ready bowl of hot SAWTAY—drop batter by spoonful—fry until brown.

"Makes Good Things to Eat"

SAWTEY CORN FRIED CHICKEN

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